

Remarks

Claims 1 - 24 are pending in this application. No amendments have been made to the claims or specification.

In item # 2 on page 2 of the office action dated 6/25/2003, the Examiner has provisionally rejected Claims 1 – 24 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 to 25 of co-pending Application No. 10/014,957.

In items # 3 and 4 on page 2 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1 – 24 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 to 25 of issued US 6,362,287 and 6,362,288 patents respectively.

In items # 5 on page 3 of the office action, the Examiner acknowledges Applicant's Terminal Disclaimer overcomes previous rejection of Claims 1 – 10, 12-21, and 22-24 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 18 – 22, 26 – 29, and 32 of issued US 6,281,286. The Examiner also acknowledges Applicant's remarks concerning co-ownership overcomes the 103 rejection made in the 1-7-2003 office action.

In item 6 of the office action, a new provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection was raised over copending Application No. 10/199,345.

Applicant submits herein a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), disclaiming the term of the issued patent resulting from the present application to not exceed the patent term of issued US Patent No.'s 6,362,287 and 6,362,288.

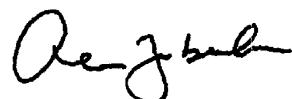
Applicant further submits herein a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), disclaiming the term of the issued patent resulting from the present application to not exceed the patent term resulting patent issuing from pending US Patent application No.'s 10/014,957 and 10/199,345.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested. Allowance of claims at an early date is solicited.

The present response is being submitted within the three month shorten statutory period for response to the outstanding Office Action. Applicant hereby authorizes the USPTO to charge deposit account 04-1520 for any fees necessary to maintain the pendency of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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